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Finance Committee Minutes 02-27-2002

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30 PM O'Neill room Community Safety Building
 2/27/02

ATTENDEES:

Janowitz*	Feinleib*	Kocur*	O'Neill*	Mahoney
DeCoursey*	Connors	Simmons*	Morrisette*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Piandes*	Franclemont		Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Tosi*	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Members of Capital Budget Committee David Kale, Tony Lionetta, Barbara Thornton, John FitzMaurice

MINUTES of 2/20/02 approved as printed. Unanimous.

GENERAL: Tosti reviewed the budget status using the handout he had prepared for Monday's [Feb. 25] Budget & Revenue Task Force (BARTF) meeting. Based on the governors budget, the budget is in the red \$2.8million, but based on the House Ways & Means Committee 10% cut, our budget has a \$4.6million deficit. He estimates, in the latter case, that \$2 million cuts will be needed in both education and manager budgets unless a tax increase is voted. Tosti asked each subcommittee to recommend "lean & mean" budgets that do not affect services. He also asked the subcommittees to keep track of other ideas that might affect services in case another round of cuts is needed. The legislature is not expected to have a budget proposal until May at the earliest. Consequently Tosti expects that budget recommendations to Town Meeting will have to be delayed until the last minute. The initial Fincom report is likely to be incomplete.

ARTICLE 52 APPROPRIATIONS/CAPITAL PROJECTS AND DEBT: Foskett as chair of the Capital Planning Committee (CPC) introduced the other members who were present. They then explained this year's capital budget using an extensive handout. They proposed reducing original budget as printed in the budget book by \$99.5k by reducing roadwork (10%) and sidewalk work (50%) and delaying full funding of several other projects for a year. The continual delay of the Ottoson reimbursement (\$437k/yr) has a large effect on this budget and the future plans. Fincom members suggested further reductions but decided that enough had been done for the first (lean & mean) phase.

VOTED: \$7,209,284 as recommended by the Capital Planning Committee (p14 of handout) funded by a combination of cash, bonding and grants. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

The Chair provided the list of FY01 year-end close-outs on which free cash is based.

The Fiscal Subcommittee provided copies of a letter from the manager, which reviews the town's health insurance in response to the Fincom's questions.

The Education Subcommittee provided copies of the Superintendent's review of the two scenarios discussed before the BARTF.

There will be no picture of the Committee taken this year.

The Executive Secretary provided a revised hearing schedule: 3/4 Town Manager and BOS Articles & Budget; 3/6 Minuteman Budget; 3/13 School Committee Budget & Articles; 3/25 Art 62 Hardy School.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$204,070

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$231,272

Peter B. Howard, Secretary 2/28/02

Budget & Article Action Summary

Ord #	Date of presentation	Date of vote	\$	Vote	Art#	Date of presentation	Date of vote	\$	Vote/ assigned to
1	2/4	2/4	11257	Unanimous	19				
2					20				
3	2/20	2/20	308314	Unanimous	21				
4					24	2/11			
5					31				
6					32				
7					33				
8					34	1/28			Need info
9	2/20	2/20	693368	Unanimous	35	2/11		BOS	
10	2/20	2/20	190595	Unanimous	38	1/28	2/4	No report	Unanimous
11	2/20	2/20	91838	Unanimous	39	1/28			Foskett
12					40	1/28			
13					41				
14	2/20	2/20	340727	Unanimous	42				
15	2/20	2/20	19570	Unanimous	43				
16					44				
7a					45				
7b					46				
17c					47				
7d					48				
7e					49				
17f					50				
19					52	2/27	2/27	7209284	Unanimous
20	2/20	2/20	1616142	Unanimous	53	1/28	2/4	Approve	Unanimous
21a	2/20	2/20	103030	Unanimous	54				
21b	2/20	2/20	187045	Unanimous	55				
21c	2/20	2/20	175726	Unanimous	56				
21d	2/20	2/20	146692	Unanimous	58				
22					59				
23					60				
24					61	2/20	2/20	Favor Act	Unanimous
25	2/11		9866370	Tabled	62				
26					63				
MS					64		2/11	No action	Unanimous
Rec	2/20	2/20	-9071	Unanimous	65				
Rnk	2/20	2/20	-77	Unanimous	66				
COA	2/20	2/20	-2150	Unanimous	67				
YS	2/20	2/20	263844	Unanimous	68				
					69				
					70				
					71				
					72				